

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 28, 1999

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 8, 1999

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1999–2000 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 630

Introduced by Assembly Member Cardenas
(Coauthor: Senator Escutia)

February 19, 1999

An act to add Section 51220.3 to the Education Code, relating to instruction, ~~and making an appropriation therefor.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 630, as amended, Cardenas. Instruction: honors courses: statewide standards.

Under existing law, the governing board of every school district is required to enforce in its schools the courses of study and the use of textbooks and other instructional materials prescribed by the proper authority.

This bill would prohibit a school district from designating or offering a course of instruction that is characterized as an honors course unless *the course covers a subject required for admission to the University of California or the California State University* and the school district has submitted a description of the course curricula to the Office of the President of the University of California and has received confirmation from the University of California that the course will be included on the list of honors courses accepted by the University of California for extra grade weighting. The bill

would require that any course submitted to the University of California for approval *be reviewed through the existing process for articulation established by the University of California campus that awards extra credit for grade weighting only for courses that provide the depth, breadth, and rigor that is substantially similar to an advanced placement course, an entry level college course, or a community college level course.*

~~This bill would appropriate an unspecified amount from the General Fund to the State Department of Education for the purpose of assisting school districts in meeting these requirements and to high poverty areas to reimburse school districts for staff time and materials needed to design and submit the honors courses to the University of California. The bill would also appropriate funds to school districts to provide assistance for developing special materials needed for honors course offerings.~~

~~This bill would require that the appropriation be included in the amounts appropriated by the state in the 1999-2000 fiscal year for purposes of meeting the state's minimum funding obligation to school districts and community college districts under Section 8 of Article XVI of the California Constitution for that fiscal year.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: yes *no*. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 51220.3 is added to the
 2 Education Code, to read:
 3 51220.3. ~~(a) A school district shall~~ *A school district*
 4 *may not* designate or offer a course of instruction that is
 5 characterized as an honors course unless *the course*
 6 *covers a subject required for admission to the University*
 7 *of California or the California State University and the*
 8 school district has submitted a description of the course
 9 curricula to the Office of the President of the University
 10 of California and has received confirmation from the
 11 University of California that the course will be included
 12 on the list of honors courses accepted by the University

1 of California for extra grade weighting. Any course
2 submitted to the University of California for approval
3 shall be ~~required to~~ *reviewed through the existing*
4 *process for articulation established by the University of*
5 *California campus that awards extra credit for grade*
6 *weighting only for courses that* provide the depth,
7 breadth, and rigor that is substantially similar to an
8 advanced placement course, an entry level college
9 course, or a community college level course.

10 (b) ~~The amount of _____ dollars (\$_____) is~~
11 ~~hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the State~~
12 ~~Department of Education for allocation to school districts~~
13 ~~for the purpose of assisting school districts in meeting the~~
14 ~~requirements set forth in subdivision (a), and to high~~
15 ~~poverty areas to reimburse school districts for additional~~
16 ~~staff time and materials needed to design honors courses~~
17 ~~and submit them to the University of California. Funds~~
18 ~~shall also be available to school districts to provide~~
19 ~~assistance for developing special materials needed for~~
20 ~~honors course offerings.~~

21 (c) ~~For the purposes of making computations required~~
22 ~~by Section 8 of Article XVI of the California Constitution,~~
23 ~~the appropriation made by this section shall be deemed~~
24 ~~to be “General Fund revenues appropriated to school~~
25 ~~districts,” as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 41202 of~~
26 ~~the Education Code for the 1999–2000 fiscal year and be~~
27 ~~included within the “total allocations to school districts~~
28 ~~and community college districts from General Fund~~
29 ~~proceeds of taxes appropriated pursuant to Article~~
30 ~~XIII B,” as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 41202 of~~
31 ~~the Education Code for the 1999–2000 fiscal year.~~